

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kallio (US Patent Publication US 2002/0147008 A1) in view of Bridgelall (US Publication 2002/0085516 A1).

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner states that Kallio teaches a method of managing mobility of a mobile station across an 802.xx wireless local area network (WLAN) and a wireless wide area network (WWAN) comprising Applicant's steps: "(b) in response to step (a), the mobile station issuing a registration request to the serving MSC for the WLAN" and "(c) in response to step (b), the serving MSC for the WLAN causing the WWAN to recognize that the mobile station is registered with the serving MSC for the WLAN and that the mobile station is no longer served by a prior MSC." Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Kallio does not teach a method of managing mobility of a mobile station across an 802.xx WLAN and WWAN wherein the mobile station initiates communications via the WLAN by issuing a registration request to the serving MSC for the WLAN (step (b) of Applicant's claim 1). On page 3 of the office action, the Examiner cites Kallio page 6, section 0050 for this teaching. However, sections 0049 and 0050 describe a Base Station Subsystem (BSS) in a WWAN system (GSM system) initiating a handover of the mobile station to the WLAN system. Specifically, when the handover algorithm installed in the BSS indicates the need for a handover, a handover request is sent towards the MSC 120 and then delivered to the WLAN system (WMC 210). If the WLAN system can handle the handover, it sends a handover request acknowledgement to the MSC. The MSC then sends a handover command to the mobile station. There is no mention in section 0050 or anywhere else in Kallio of the mobile station sending a registration request to the serving MSC for the WLAN.

The Examiner cites Kallio figure 2, page 6 section 0050 as teaching "in response to step (b), the serving MSC for the WLAN causing the WWAN to recognize that the mobile station is registered with the serving MSC (WMC, 220) page 4 section 0031) for the WLAN and that the mobile station is no longer served by a prior MSC (112) (see figure 2, page 6 section 0050): Here, the

Examiner states that the serving MSC for the WLAN is the WMC shown in Kallio, Figure 2 and that the prior MSC is element 112 shown in Kallio, Figure 2. First element 112 in Kallio is the BTS in the GSM system, which is not an MSC. As commonly known in the art, a BTS (base transceiver station) merely transceives signals to and from a mobile station and does not perform the switching functions of an MSC. However, even if the BTS could be equated to an MSC, Kallio, page 6, section 0050 does not teach that the WMC causes the WWAN to recognize that the mobile station is registered with the WMC and no longer served by a prior MSC. Section 0050 teaches handover of a mobile station from a GSM system to a WLAN system wherein the GSM MSC 120, not the WLAN MSC 210, controls the handover process. In particular, the MSC 120 delivers a handover request to the WMC 210. The WMC 210 sends a handover request acknowledgement to the MSC 120 and then the MSC 120 handles the handover procedure. The MSC 120 sends a handover command to the mobile station. The MSC 120 receives a handover message back from the mobile station. The MSC 120 releases the reserved resources from the GSM BSS 110. Kallio simply does not teach that the serving MSC for the WLAN causes the WWAN to recognize that the mobile station is registered with the serving MSC for the WLAN and no longer served by a prior MSC.

The Examiner asserts that Kallio in combination with Bridgelall teaches Applicant's claim 6. Applicants respectfully disagree. The Examiner states that Kallio teaches the steps of: "the source MSC analyzing the message, establishing itself as an anchor MSC, and establishing communication channels with a target MSC servicing the detected WLAN" and "the target MSC relaying those communication [communication between the mobile station and WLAN] to the anchor MSC." The Examiner cites Kallio, page 6 section 0052 for these teachings. Kallio does not teach a source MSC in a WWAN system establishing itself as an anchor MSC such that the target MSC in a WLAN system relays communications between the mobile station and the WLAN to the source MSC. Assuming for sake of argument that the WMC 210 is the MSC for the WLAN system (as the Examiner has assumed on page 2 of the office action) and that the MSC 120 is the MSC for the GSM system (as shown in FIG. 2 of Kallio),

Kallio does not teach that the MSC 120 (source MSC) establishes itself as an anchor MSC and that after the mobile station establishes communications with the WLAN, the WMC 210 (target MSC) relays communications between the mobile station and the WLAN to the MSC 120.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kallio in view of Chaney et al. (US Publication 2003/0108000 A1). Claim 13 has been cancelled thus mooted the rejection of that claim.


In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that neither Kallio nor Bridgelall, separately or in combination, teach the limitations of claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore in condition for allowance. Applicant submits that claims 2-12 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on claim 1. Applicant submits that claim 6 is also allowable based on the reasons set forth above. Applicant requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,
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